(b) Main recommendations contained in Part A of the project report are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) A view of the recommendations is possible only after the full project report is available.

Statement

The new pattern of Rural Institutes will develop its extension programme in such a way that it makes a real impact upon the development process in the selected villages. The new Rural Institute will be an instrument of social change.

The academic programme of the rural institutes will be employment-oriented. All the courses will be need-based and will perpare the students for useful roles in the rural communities.

The new Rural Institute will have a futuristic perspective and the degrees and diplomas awarded will have the same academic value as any other.

Academic autonomy and central accreditation in accordance with well-defined guidelines will be the other special features of the Rural Institute.

A Central Council of Rural Institutes (CCRI) is needed to ensure quality and maintain high standards in the new pattern of Rural Institutes. Besides disbursement of grants, the CCRI will identify and establish new Rural Institutes. It will function as a clearing house for collection and dissemination of knowledge and information concerning rural higher education.

The Central Council would provide expert advice to Rural Institutes, besides conducting and promoting research studies.

Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

858. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of telephone exchanges that are functioning in various circles in Gujarat;

(b) what are their capacities;

(c) what is the number of telephone lines that are sanctioned through these exchanges in each of the last three years;

(d) what is the number of applicants in the waiting list in various telephone exchanges in Gujarat since 1984; and

(e) what is the number of new telephone lines which have been sanctioned in Gujarat since 1934?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The number of Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat Telecommunication Circle (Including Baroda, Rajkot and Surat Districts) and Ahmedabad Telephone District as on 31st December, 1986 are 819 and 17 respectively.

(b) The Capacity of Gujarat Telecommunication Circle (including Baroda, Rajkot and Surat Districts) and Ahmedabad Telephone District as on 31-12-86 is 233610 and 106900 lines respectively.

(c) The number of telephone lines that were sanctioned through these exchanges in each of the last three years are given in the enclosed. Statement (*See* below).

(d) The number of applicants in the waiting list in various telephone exchanges in Gujarat, including Ahmedabad Telephone District since 1934 is as under:

31-3-84.....77988
31-3-85.....86136
31-3-86.....100599

(e) Total number of new telephone lines sanctioned in Gujarat including Ahmedabad Telephones from 1.4.84 to 31.12.86 is 58459.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the Unit	Number of Telephone Sanctioned during		
		1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
1.	Gujarat Telecom Circle (Including Baroda, Rajkot & Surat Districts)	7884	7099	11026
2.	Ahmedabad Telephone District	8188	8894	10016

DTC Fare Hike

859. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) when were the fares of DTC last hiked and by how much;

(b) whether at that time it had been promised that 400 new buses would be added to the existing fleet of 4956 buses, if so, how many buses have been added till date; and

(c) what action has been taken to remove the various grievances of the commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The DTC fares were revised w.e.f. 8-2-1986. The comparative break up of fares upto 7-2-86 and w.e.f. 8-2-86 is given hereunder:—

Distance Kms.	Fares (in paise) upto	Distance Kms.	Fares (in paise) w.e.f. 8-2-86
Upto 4	30	Upto 6	50
Upto 16	40	Upto 16	100
Upto 20	50	16 +	150
20+	75		

(b) The DTC added 202 buses to its own fleet during 1986-87. Order has been placed for 308 chassis and order for another 100 chassis is being placed. Deliveries of completed buses against its proposed purchase of 408 buses will materialise during the next financial year.

(c) Besides the Central Complaint Cell which functions round the clock at DTC headquarters, Regional Complaint Cells in all the 4 regions have also been set up. Public complaints are also received on telephone. The DTC have issued standing instructions to attend to all public complaints/grievances promptly.